

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESIONALS

#### **FACT SHEET**

Recent terrorist attacks have left many concerned about their safety. There are things you can do to prepare for an emergency that may be the result of an act of terrorism or a natural disaster. Houston is subject to year-round conditions which could pose a threat and create a disaster situation. A severe storm, flood, fire, windstorm, utility failure, hazardous materials spill, or act of terrorism may require the implementation of an emergency preparedness plan. Public information announcements will provide you with more information during emergencies.

During an emergency, health care workers will need to be available to care for patients. Being prepared will make it easier for you to deal with any emergency.

## **Personal Preparedness:**

What would you do if you had to stay at the office for several days? Have emergency food, water, clothes, and bedding in your trunk. An emergency checklist can be downloaded at <a href="http://www.redcross.org/disaster/safety/fdsk.pdf">http://www.redcross.org/disaster/safety/fdsk.pdf</a>

#### Family Preparedness:

What would your family do if you could not get home for several days?

- Devise an emergency plan http://www.ready.gov/america/family\_plan.html
- Protecting you and your family
  <a href="http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/edc/edrp/es/emergency\_preparedness.htm">http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/edc/edrp/es/emergency\_preparedness.htm</a>

#### Office Preparedness:

What would your office staff do if they could not get home from the office for several days?

- Personal Workplace Disaster Supplies Kit
  <a href="http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/workkit.html">http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/workkit.html</a>
- Preparing Your Business For the Unthinkable http://www.ready.gov/business/index.html

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## **Bioterrorism Education and Resources for Clinicians:**

- American College of Physicians http://www.acponline.org/bioterro/
- American Medical Association
  <a href="http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/6215.html">http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/6215.html</a>
- American Society of Microbiology http://www.asm.org/
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention http://www.bt.cdc.gov/
- Infectious Diseases Society of America <u>http://www.idsociety.org/</u>
- American Academy of Pediatrics <u>http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/terrorism.cfm</u>
- USAMRIID's Medical Management of Biological Casualties Handbook, 5th Edition 2004 http://www.usamriid.army.mil/education/bluebook.htm

## **Emergency Preparedness and Children:**

- Children, Terrorism, and Disasters (AAP) http://www.aap.org/terrorism/index.html
- Children, Terrorism, and Disasters: Psychosocial Aspects (AAP)
  <a href="http://www.aap.org/terrorism/topics/psychosocial\_aspects.html">http://www.aap.org/terrorism/topics/psychosocial\_aspects.html</a>
- National Advisory Committee on Children and Terrorism (CDC) http://www.bt.cdc.gov/children/index.asp
- FDA Guidelines for Pediatric Dosing and Medicines
  <a href="http://www.fda.gov/cder/drugprepare/default.htm#Pediatrics">http://www.fda.gov/cder/drugprepare/default.htm#Pediatrics</a>
- Pediatric Preparedness for Disasters and Terrorism (NCDP) [PDF 204 KB]
  - http://www.bt.cdc.gov/children/pdf/working/execsumm03.pdf
- Disaster Response (American Academy of Childhood and Adolescent Psychiatry)
   http://www.aacap.org/publications/DisasterResponse/index.htm

# **Resources for Continuing Medical Education on Bioterrorism:**

- American College of Preventive Medicine http://www.waterhealthconnection.org/
- American College of Physicians (for download onto a PDA)
  http://www.acponline.org/pda/index.html